

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: NEA:EABINGTON

APPROVED BY: NEA:EABINGTON

S/S-O:DLMACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 246955

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 6949 ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
AMMAN BEIRUT CAIRO KUWAIT DAMASCUS RABAT ALGIERS TUNIS  
DHAHRAN DTD 15 OCT

QTE

S E C R E T JIDDA 6949

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, XF, LE

SUBJECT: INTER-ARAB DISCUSSIONS ON LEBANON

REF: A) STATE 239611 (NOTAL); B) JIDDA 6892; (NOTAL)

C) STATE 243489 (NOTAL);

1. SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER PRINCE SAUD TOLD ME  
THIS MORNING (OCT 15) THAT THE CAIRO MEETING ON  
THE LEBANON PROBLEM HAD BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL  
1800 LOCAL THIS EVENING; AND THAT NO RPT NO OTHER  
ITEM WOULD BE ON THE AGENDA. HE DOES NOT RPT NOT  
EXPECT THE MEETING TO LAST MORE THAN THREE OR FOUR

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HOURS AND PLANS TO RETURN TO SAUDI ARABIA THIS EVENING.

2. HE SAID THE MEETING WILL BE HELD WITHOUT ANY PRE-CONCEIVED NOTIONS AS TO WHAT THE SOLUTION MUST BE BUT THERE WERE, NONETHELESS, THREE ELEMENTS WHICH WERE CLEAR:

A) THE CHRISTIAN LEADERS ARE INCAPABLE OF CONTROLLING THEIR EXTREMISTS; THE SAME IS TRUE OF THE MOSLEM LEADERS AND IT IS EQUALLY TRUE THAT ARAFAT CANNOT CONTROL THE PALESTINIAN RADICALS.  
NO AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL PRESSURE ON ANY OF THE NOMINAL LEADERS WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE.

B) THE CONSTITUTIONAL MAKEUP OF LEBANON MUST BE CHANGED. CHRISTIAN RIGHTS MUST BE PROTECTED BUT IT IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN THE FICTION OF A LEBANESE CHRISTIAN MAJORITY.

C) IF PEACE IS TO BE RESTORED IT WILL HAVE TO BE ARRANGED OR IMPOSED BY AN OUTSIDE FORCE.

3. AS FOR POINT 2-C ABOVE, HE COMMENTED THAT IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE FOR A UNITED NATIONS GROUP TO COME IN, "BUT THIS IS OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE." THIS LEAVES, HE SAID, ONLY THE POSSIBILITY OF A SYRAIN OR AN INTER-ARAB FORCE.

4. I TOLD PRINCE SAUD THAT ISRAEL WAS OBVIOUSLY FOLLOWING THE MATTER CAREFULLY. (HE COMMENTED HERE THAT HE THOUGHT BOTH ISRAEL AND THE SOVIET UNION WERE AT LEAST INDIRECTLY INVOLVED IN SUPPORTING THE EXTREMISTS); THAT WE HAD COUNSELED ISRAEL TO REMAIN CALM AND TAKE NO PRECIPITOUS ACTIONS BUT IF ISRAEL FELT ITSELF THREATENED WE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO RESTRAIN IT.

5. HE SAID HE WAS DISTURBED BY THIS. WERE WE MAKING A THREAT OR AN OBSERVATION? I ASSURED HIM IT WAS AN OBSERVATION. HE SAID IN EITHER CASE WE SHOULD BEAR A FEW THINGS IN MIND:

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A) ISRAEL IS NOT AND CANNOT BE THREATENED BY ANYTHING THAT GOES IN LEBANON. EVERY ARAB, AS WELL AS EVERY ISRAELI, KNOWS THAT ISRAEL HAS THE MILITARY CAPABILITY OF MOVING INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON-OR INTO BEIRUT FOR THAT MATTER.

B) EVERY ARAB HAS SEEN THE MAPS OF "ERETZ IZRAEL"

PUT OUT BY THE FIRST ZIONISTS AND EVERY ARAB BELIEVES  
THAT ISRAEL HAS LONG LOOKED FOR A PRETEXT TO OCCUPY  
SOUTHERN LEBANON.

C) NO ARAB WILL DELEIVE THAT THE USG COULD NOT RPT  
NOT CONTROL ISRAEL IF IT WISHED TO DO SO-AT LEAST TO  
THE EXTENT OF PREVENTING AN INVASION OF LEBANON.

D) IF ISRAEL DOES MOVE INTO LEBANON THERE WILL BE  
GENERAL WAR IN THE AREA. (HE REPEATED THIS LAST POINT  
TWICE AGAIN.)

6. SAUD CONCLUDED BY SAYING HAT "THE ARABS" HAD  
DECIDED THAT THE CHAOS IN LEBANON CANNOT CONTINUE.  
NO SPECIFIC DECISIONS ON HOW THIS IS TO BE DONE HAD  
YET BEEN REACHED BUT AN INTER-ARAB FORCE MIGHT BE THE  
ONLY MEANS OF RESTORING ORDER.

HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE  
LEBANESE-BOTH CHRISTIAN AND MOSELM-WOULD WELCOME  
SUCH A SOLUTION.

AKINS UNQTE KISSINGER

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